



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor



Josh Loftin, 801.245.7205
Communications Director, Dept. of Heritage and Arts

Katie Barlow, 801-245-7281
Outreach Coordinator, UServeUtah

For immediate release

April 12, 2016

Utahns Encouraged to Volunteer, Recognize Volunteers During National Volunteer Week

SALT LAKE CITY- UServeUtah is encouraging Utahns to participate in National Volunteer Week, a nationwide effort to honor and celebrate ordinary people doing extraordinary things to improve communities across the country.

National Volunteer Week, April 10-16, encourages individuals and their respective communities to take action and be at the center of social change – discovering and demonstrating their collective power to make a difference. National Volunteer Week, established in 1974, has grown exponentially each year and now has thousands of volunteer projects and special events scheduled throughout the week across the nation.

Utahns continue to demonstrate their strong commitment to improving local communities in a variety of ways through volunteerism, ranking Utah #1 in the nation for volunteering 10 years running by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The most recent data shows more than 950,000 volunteers served approximately 193.7 million total hours. Those hours provided almost \$4.5 billion in total estimated economic value, based on the Independent Sector's estimate of \$23.07 as the value of a volunteer hour.

Individuals, families, educational institutions, community groups, faith-based organizations, and businesses are encouraged to join projects or to volunteer in their communities this week. For ideas on how to get involved, visit the UServeUtah [Pledge10](#) website.

Wrapping up National Volunteer Week is Global Youth Service Day, the largest service event in the world and the only one dedicated to the contributions that young people make to their communities throughout the year. Service projects in Utah can be found at <http://www.gysd.org>

UServeUtah encourages everyone to find a way to say "Thank You" to the volunteers that are making a difference in Utah communities every day. The Lieutenant Governor's Volunteer Recognition Certificate, provided by UServeUtah, is one of many ways organizations can recognize the efforts of their volunteers who are making a lasting impact on the population and organizations they serve. For more ideas, read [10 Simple Ways to Thank Volunteers](#) on the [UServeUtah](#) website.

For more information and ideas on ways to participate in National Volunteer Week visit the UServeUtah website at userve.utah.gov.

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Find more about us online at userve.utah.gov

UServeUtah, the Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism, is the state's central coordinating body for service and volunteerism. The Commission is responsible for developing, implementing, and sustaining a vision and culture of civic engagement and national and community service within the state. UServeUtah does this through promoting volunteerism; administering National Service programs; connecting people with opportunities to serve; building organizational capacity for effective volunteer engagement and; participating in strategic initiatives that mobilize volunteers to meet local needs.
